

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action mailed September 25, 2007 is acknowledged. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 16 and 40 have been amended. Claims 2, 6, 12, 13, 20-34, 44 and 45 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claim 48 has been added, support for which can be found in original claim 6. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 14-19, 35-43 and 46-48 will be pending.

Upon allowance of claims 1-14, rejoinder of combination claims listed in Groups II, IV, V and VI is requested as required in the last paragraph of MPEP 806.05(c) ("If a claim to B_{sp} is determined to be allowable, any claims requiring B_{sp}, including any combination claims of the format AB_{sp}, must be considered for rejoinder"). Also, upon the allowance of claims 1-14, rejoinder of the process claims is respectfully requested pursuant to MPEP 821.04(b). Applicants reserve the right to file additional divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

The drawings have been objected to as not complying with 37 CFR 1.83(a). Applicants have amended the specification at page 14 to clarify that reference numeral 23 designates the "vertically extending ridges" as that term is used in claim 7. Claims 12 and 13 have been canceled. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the drawing objections are respectfully requested.

Applicants have amended the specification, claims and the abstract of the disclosure to address the objections set forth in paragraphs 4-6 of the Office Action.

Claims 5-6, 10 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. In view of the amendments to the claims, applicants submit that these rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2 and 8-14 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gordon Hoare (GB 2 118 155) ("GB '115"). Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of now canceled claim 2. Amended claim 1 now recites, *inter alia*, two sets of threads and the second set of threads having a direction which is opposite the first set of threads. As described in the present specification, such as page 7, lines 21-25, having opposite threads allows a spindle used to remove the cap, see e.g., Figure 2, to bottom out against the second end wall of the closure and then to unscrew the closure from the bottle due to the reverse thread design.

The Office Action at page 6 asserts that GB '115 teaches a second set of threads, presumably those threads formed by inner side wall 14 and outer side wall 15 of closure member 2, having an opposite thread design to the first set of threads, i.e., those threads formed with grub screw 22. However, applicants cannot find such a disclosure in GB '115 that teaches or suggests such an opposite threaded design. In fact, since threads are generally configured as having a "right handed" configuration, one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected the closure of GB '115 have the same configuration for each set of threads. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 3-7 and 46 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Gordon Hoare (GB 2 118 155) ("GB '115") in view of Daubert et al. Applicants submit that claims 3-7 and 46 are allowable for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1-2 and 8-14. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If the

Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 10-0750/CDS 5015/TJB.

Respectfully submitted,

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